

# Taiwanese Aborigines

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## Holidays & Celebrations

Two of the most well-known festivities in Taiwan are Tomb Sweeping Day, and the Taiwan Lantern Festival. Tomb Sweeping Day is a public holiday celebrating and honoring passed relatives, while the Taiwan Lantern Festival celebrates its country.

## Origins:

The culture of Taiwan has been influenced by aboriginal peoples, Chinese culture brought by immigrants, the brief period of Western colonial rule, Chinese governance, Japanese rule, and Westernization since World War II.

## Languages

Mandarin Chinese has been the official language of Taiwan since 1945 and is also the most spoken language in the country. However, languages like Hakka, Taiwanese, and Japanese are also spoken.

## Clothing



Taiwanese traditional clothing includes the Qipao (旗袍). The Qipao is most often seen as a long, form-fitting, one-piece garment with a standing collar, an asymmetric opening, and two side slits.

## Food

Popular foods in Taiwan include beef noodle soup (牛肉面), pineapple cake (鳳梨酥), braised pork rice (滷肉飯), sticky rice dumplings (粽子), and Taiwanese fried chicken (鹹酥雞).



## Diffusion

Parts of Taiwanese culture have made their way into American culture, such as boba. Boba is a beverage consisting of tea, condensed milk, syrup, and tapioca that originated in Taiwan. Today, you can find hundreds of stores selling boba in America.



## Music

Taiwanese music can be organized into three sections; mainstream Mandopop, Taiwanese pop, and indie rock. One of Taiwan's most famous pop artists is Jay Chou.



## Landscapes & Architecture

Taipei 101, Jiufen Old Street, and Shifen Waterfall are all iconic and well-known landscapes and architectural works in Taiwan.



## Religion/belief System

The two main religions practiced in Taiwan are Buddhism and Taoism. Often times, Taiwanese people will practice a blend of these two.



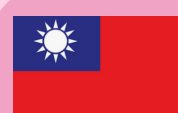
## Taboos

In Taiwan, people tend to avoid the number four because in Chinese, the word for death sounds like the word for "four". Sticking chopsticks upright into food is also seen as disrespectful, as it mocks the act of lighting incense for passed relatives.



## Social Structure

Taiwan's society is hierarchical and class-oriented, with a president in charge of the nation. The current president is Tsai Ing-wen.



## Call to Action

Despite its unique and vibrant culture, Taiwan has always struggled with receiving recognition as a democratic nation separate from the Republic of China (ROC). As of now, there are only a few countries that will officially recognize Taiwan. This must be changed and can be done so by spreading awareness about its individuality as a nation.